AI IN SLP EDUCATION: PRACTICAL PATHWAYS FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

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Learning Objectives:
- Participants will identify how generative artificial intelligence (AI) functions as a prediction system and recognize key ethical considerations when using AI in academic and clinical settings.
- Participants will describe the process of writing effective prompts for AI tools to clarify course concepts and generate therapy ideas through a provided case study example
- Participants will discuss specific applications of AI tools as it relates to academic and clinical studies, including AI as a clinical writing tutor, research assistant, and interview simulator

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Course Abstract

Generative AI tools like ChatGPT, Claude, and Perplexity are transforming how students learn, write, and communicate, but many don't know how to use them effectively. While classroom discussions around AI focus on protecting academic integrity and discouraging cheating, educators miss an opportunity to teach students how to use this powerful tool. Students may feel overwhelmed by the abundance of AI tools, how they complement learning, and where ethical boundaries lie. Speech-language pathology and audiology students need direct teaching on AI and how it supports learning. Every successful student must learn evidence-based reasoning, clinical documentation, and empathetic communication, and when approached thoughtfully, AI can provide powerful feedback in these skills. When guided by seasoned content experts, students can navigate AI's hallucinations and generalized answers, utilizing this tool to improve communication of their ideas (Dai et al., 2023; Pelaez-Sanchez et al., 2024; Pretorius, 2023). This presentation equips students with foundational knowledge and hands-on skills to use AI as an ally in academic coursework and clinical training.The presentation covers key considerations including data privacy, discrimination through encoded bias (Iskender, 2023), misinformation harms (Manakul et al., 2023), and environmental costs (Crawford, 2024; Shelby et al., 2023). Using an interactive case study on narrative intervention, participants learn foundational and specific AI applications: writing effective prompts, cross-referencing multiple tools to identify hallucinations, therapy idea generation, evidence-based research using Research Rabbit and Perplexity, clinical writing improvement, and ChatGPT's Voice Mode for practicing professional communication. Participants leave with specific strategies, prompt templates, and resources applicable immediately to coursework, client sessions, and exam preparation.

Speaker Bio

Sarah Moreau, M.A., CCC-SLP, is an Assistant Professor and Director of Clinical Education at West Chester University, where she teaches at both undergraduate and graduate levels. Drawing from her dual roles in academia and clinical practice, Sarah advocates for thoughtful AI integration in speech-language pathology education. She recognizes AI's potential as a learning tool when students develop proper literacy skills, rather than using it as a replacement for critical thinking. As Director of Clinical Education, she emphasizes teaching AI literacy to emerging clinicians to strengthen their clinical reasoning and skill mastery. Sarah continues practicing as a clinician specializing in pediatric feeding disorders, bringing real-world insight into the competencies students need.

Speaker Disclosures

Sarah Moreau has no relevant relationships to disclose.